

WEST DES MOINES PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD PROCEEDINGS
Thursday, May 19, 2016

The meeting of the West Des Moines Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was called to order on Thursday, May 19, at 5:43 p.m. by Joe Hrdlicka.

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| Commission | Heather Schebel | Rick Swalwell | Forrest Ridgway | Aaron Sewell | Joe Hrdlicka |
| Present | X | Arrived at 5:45pm | X | | X |
| Staff | Susan Mathews <i>Parks & Recreation Administrative Secretary</i> | Sally Ortgies <i>Superintendent of Parks</i> | Greg Hansen <i>Superintendent of Recreation</i> | Gary Scott <i>Director of Parks & Recreation</i> | |
| Present | X | | X | X | |

On Item 1. Approval of Agenda

Ridgway moved to approve the agenda as presented. Schebel seconded. Motion carried.

On Item 2. Citizen Forum

Fred Morrison, Southwick townhomes resident.

Morrison stated that townhome owners received a letter regarding the potential cellphone tower at 4101 EP True Parkway and a Board of Adjustment meeting taking place on June 1. He inquired how the site was picked. Scott gave a brief history of the project and other proposed locations that had not worked out for various reasons. He added that the proposed location is permitted by zoning regulations but that the lease could potentially be denied. He noted that City Planner, Kara Tragesser, came to the April meeting and made a presentation about the proposal. Scott stated that no action was taken by the Board at that meeting because the lease is still being negotiated. The City Council has the final authority to approve the lease. Morrison stated that there are 71 homeowners across the street who are worried about their property values. City Council member Russ Trimble stated that cellphone towers are a very difficult issue because everyone wants service but nobody wants the tower in their neighborhood. Trimble stated that due to federal guidelines the City is required to accommodate towers. Swalwell suggested revisiting the deed with MidAmerican which disallowed commercial use of the site at 39th and EP True Parkway. One of the other four Southwick townhome residents in attendance expressed concern about a negative impact on wildlife. Scott stated that due to experience with other similar and higher impact projects he does not believe that will be a problem. Hrdlicka suggested the residents attend the Board of Adjustment meeting and added that the Board and Parks & Recreation staff would revisit any alternatives or adjustments.

On Item 3. Approval of Minutes of April 21, 2016 Meeting

Schebel moved to approve the minutes as presented. Ridgway seconded. Motion carried.

On Item 4. Old Business

No items.

New Business:

On Item 5A. Motion – Establish Special Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meetings – Ice Cream Socials:

1. July 14, 6:30 p.m. – Kiwanis Park
2. Board meeting – July 21, 5:30 p.m. – Wild Rose Park
3. July 21, 6:30 p.m. – Wild Rose Park

Ridgway moved to establish the special Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meetings. Swalwell seconded. Motion carried.

On Item 5B. Discussion – Park Financing

Scott spoke about a potential City Council workshop in July where overall park financing could be discussed. He added that the Trust for Public Land suggested that strategic high support priorities be at the forefront for success with the potential referendum. Scott stated that the City of Des Moines and the Des Moines Partnership are going to seek a regional sales tax vote in March and are requesting support from West Des Moines. The potential impacts on that vote were discussed.

Staff Reports:

On Item 6A. Superintendent of Parks

Ortgies not present.

On Item 6B. Superintendent of Recreation

Hansen reminded the Board of the Valley Junction Family Fun Night on June 9 from 4-7pm and asked for Board members to volunteer their time. He shared that construction at the VJ Activity Center is approaching substantial completion and encouraged Board members to visit the new facility. Hansen stated that Aquatic Staff hiring is nearly complete and that Aquatic Centers open June 3.

On Item 6C. Director of Parks and Recreation

Scott stated that the Art on the Trail proposal will be reviewed by the selection committee next week and fabrication will begin in June with installation this fall. He shared that the proposed improvements to the site at 39th Street and EP True Parkway including community garden space, parking lot and field are far more expense than anticipated so adjustments have been made to scale back the improvements to construct a 50 car parking lot and basic turf improvements. He added that the community gardens will remain at Jordan Creek Park and will be expanded and water access will be established.

On Item 7. Other Matters

No items.

Receive, File and/or Refer:

On Item 8A. City Council Communications

May 2, 2016: Motion – Approval of Contract Agreement Amendment – Landscape Maintenance

May 2, 2016: Proclamation – Bike Month – May 2016

May 2, 2016: Resolution – Approval of Agreement – Renewal of Main Street Iowa Program Agreement

May 16, 2016: Resolution – Order Construction and Notice of Public Hearing on Plans, Specifications, Form of Contract, Estimate of Cost, and Direct Advertisement of Bids – Raccoon River Park Softball Irrigation Modifications

Ridgway moved to adjourn. Schebel seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Mathews
Administrative Secretary

ATTEST:

Aaron Sewell
Advisory Board Secretary